

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H01L21/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 903 717 A (SUMNITSCH FRANZ) 27 February 1990 (1990-02-27) cited in the application abstract; figure 3 column 3, line 22 -column 5, line 41	1, 4-8
Y	----	2, 3
X	DE 198 07 460 A (SEZ SEMICONDUCT EQUIP ZUBEHOER) 15 April 1999 (1999-04-15) the whole document	1, 4-8
X	--- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 20, 10 July 2001 (2001-07-10) & JP 2001 077082 A (TAKATA CORP), 23 March 2001 (2001-03-23) abstract --- -/-	1, 4-8

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/06/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 678 116 A (KITAGAWA MASARU ET AL) 14 October 1997 (1997-10-14) abstract; claims; figures ----	2,3
A	US 5 718 763 A (TATEYAMA KIYOHISA ET AL) 17 February 1998 (1998-02-17) abstract; claims; figures 4,5 column 6, line 53 -column 7, line 45 ----	1-8
A	US 5 273 589 A (HUSAIN SYED A ET AL) 28 December 1993 (1993-12-28) abstract; claims; figures ----	1-8
E	US 2004/050491 A1 (IZUMI AKIRA ET AL) 18 March 2004 (2004-03-18) abstract; claims; figures 5-19 -----	1-8

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